

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

June 27, 1983

Region 6 DALLAS

FIDELITY ROAD SITE, HOUSTON, TEXAS

ISSUE: What is EPA doing about possible PCBs in drainage ditches and under buildings owned by Gulf Electroquip at 4200 Fidelity Road?

TIMING: The analytical results from the April 15, 1983, inspection of the site will be available in early July. After these results are received, a followup inspection will be scheduled, if necessary, to determine if monitoring wells should be installed at the site.

CONCERNED GROUPS: The Clinton Park-View Fidelity Action Community Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (CPVFAC/ACORN)

DISCUSSION: The CPVFAC/ACORN complained about PCBs in drainage ditches at the Fidelity Road site. An investigation by EPA/State of Texas found an oily material and a red liquid in the drainage ditches. EPA does not believe that the liquids in the drainage ditches at the site came from beneath the buildings at 4200 Fidelity Road.

BACKGROUND: EPA received information on the possible burial of PCBs under concrete slabs and buildings on the property owned by Gulf Electroquip at 4200 Fidelity Road in 1980. EPA surveyed the site and decided there was no way to determine under which slabs or buildings the PCB items were buried, if present at all. Since there was no firm evidence and no method to detect the presence of PCBs, EPA subsequently dropped its investigation upon receiving assurances from Gulf Electroquip that PCB items were not buried at the site.

On April 15, 1983, EPA received information that PCBs were present in drainage ditches at this site. An inspection was conducted by EPA and the State of Texas. Samples were collected of oil, sediment and liquid in the ditches. The analyses have not been completed, but the red liquid in the ditches appears to have come from a truck firm near the site. This firm has cleaned up the material present in the drainage ditch.

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